

PROVO RIVER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD
January 12, 1978

Pursuant to the Notice from the office of the State Engineer, and to call by the Chairman, the Board of Directors of the Provo River Distribution System convened at 10:00 A.M. in Room 311 of the Utah County Courthouse.

Chairman Edwin Ure presided.

On roll call, the following were present:

J. Edwin Ure, Chairman	Group 1 Kamas Valley Canals
Sherman A. Giles	Group 2 Upper Provo, East Heber Valley
Harvey Van Wagoner	Group 3 Upper Provo, West Heber Valley
Merrill Bingham	Group 4 Provo City Canals
Stanley H. Roberts	Group 5 East Provo Canals
Niels Anderson, Vice Chairman	Group 6 Provo Bench Canals
Franklin K. Stratton	Group 7 Provo Reservoir Water Users
Jack M. Gardner, Secty-Treas.	Group 8 Provo River Water Users Assn.
Ernest Knight	Group 9 Upper Provo Individual Rights

Present from State Engineer's Office were:

Edward D. Feldt	Dist. Engineer-Division of Water Rights
Donald C. Norseth	Distribution Engineer-Division of Water

Also present were:

Stanley Roberts, Jr.	Provo River Commissioner
Carly Burton	Utah Power & Light Company
Myron R. Frederick	Utah Power & Light Company
Hugh A. McKellar	Provo River Water Users Association
Cyril M. Hicken	Wasatch Irrigation Company

Mr. Norseth opened the meeting and inquired if there were any change in officers or directors, and was advised that the officers remained the same. That Franklin K. Stratton had replaced John W. Gillman, Provo River Water Users Association. He then introduced Edward Feldt, and advised that Mr. Feldt is District Engineer for the Provo River and Utah Lake District.

Mr. Norseth then presented the agenda and then went on to report that Utah Lake had in storage 558,000 acre feet, and that the reservoirs in the southern part of the state were dry. The Bear River drainage water supply was 104% of normal, and the Logan River 118% of normal.

Whereupon Mr. Norseth turned the meeting over to Chairman Ure.

CORRECTION, ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING, JANUARY 13, 1977:

At the request of the Chairman, Secretary Gardner read the minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Directors with the State Engineer held on January 13, 1977. There being no corrections, Director Giles moved that the minutes be adopted; seconded by Director Roberts and carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF 1977 AND DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS:

Mr. Norseth then presented the 1977 Financial Report and delinquent accounts as prepared by the State Engineer and is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

After due discussion and upon motion duly made, by Director Bingham, seconded by Director Knight, and carried unanimously, the Financial Statement was accepted as presented.

It was noted that there are water rights carried on the assessment rolls of the State Engineer that appear to be abandoned. After due discussion and upon motion made by Director Giles, and seconded by Director Roberts, and carried unanimously; the State Engineer was authorized to write those that appear to have an abandoned water right advising that the right is to be taken from the assessment rolls, as the right is considered abandoned.

COMMISSIONER AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Roberts noted that the 1977 annual report was not yet completed, that it would be published shortly after May 1, as the U.S.G.S. records are not available until the end of April. He then presented four pages of records of four U.S.G.S. gaging stations on the Provo River as an addendum to the 1976 report and further stated that he had some 1976 reports that included these records.

Whereupon Commissioner Roberts called upon Deputy Commissioner Giles for his report of operations on the Upper Provo for the year 1977:

Deputy Commissioner Giles reported on the water situation noting that the 1977 season water yield from the Provo River natural flow was the worst since 1934. That on the first of February, 1977, there were 2.9" of water at Trial Lake which was 19% of normal. March 1st had 5.1", 25% of normal. The irrigation season began in the middle of April with only water for the first class users of the Upper Provo. For only about a week in May there was a little water available over and above the first class rights. The head of the river storage reservoir held only about 10% of their capacity at the first of May. In the latter part of May, there were some heavy storms that brought this storage to about 45% or 4807 acre feet. The river at its low point was down to 15% of the river. With the help of the storms, he was able to deliver 60% of the river from June 14 to June 26, 55% through July and 44% through August.

Deer Creek Reservoir allocated 99% to its stockholders and Washington Kamas were able to exchange 192 acre feet of their Deer Creek storage water.

Deputy Commissioner Giles then noted that because of the cooperation that had been extended by the Board, Commissioner Roberts, the State Engineer's office, the Provo River Water Users Association and the Water Users that he was able to deliver water in under the drought conditions with a minor amount of problems and extended his appreciation for this cooperation.

Commissioner Roberts then exhibited a chart showing the natural flow on the Provo River in the years 1934, 1961 and 1977. This chart demonstrated that in 1934 the natural flow was slightly lower than in 1977, with both years having no appreciable runoff. The year 1961 was demonstrated to have to have considerable runoff. Also a chart was shown showing that Deer Creek had less water in storage at the end of the irrigation season in 1961 than in 1977.

It was also noted that the Provo River Water Users Association had withheld some 35,521 acre feet of surplus water on the Provo River under its perfected Application No. 16642 and through exchange of its return flow to Utah Lake under Application No. 12144. 10,000 acre feet were stored under the "Power Contract" which provides for compensation to Utah Power and Light by debiting the Association's "power balance" and the remainder of the water stored was stored under an agreement with Utah Power and Light Company wherein the Association compensated the Power Company at a \$1.94 per acre foot. The storing of this water was possible as Utah Lake was higher than average and had ample water to satisfy its rights. Had it not have been for this, Deer Creek would have had less water in storage than in 1961.

Commissioner Roberts then noted that the Lower Provo River delivered to Class "A" users 50%, beginning April 4, and dropped to 35% for a short period. There was no secondary water available during any time of the year.

Water was delivered periodically through the Provo Reservoir Canal to the 8th of June, due to the timely rains. After that, a small flow was delivered to Orem and Pleasant Grove. Due to the small flow, the seepage loss was high.

The U.S.B.R. has installed measuring stations at the mouth of Snake Creek, on the Provo River just above Deer Creek Reservoir, and at the damsite at Jordanelle. There are to be gages installed on Ross Creek and on the Provo River above Jordanelle Reservoir.

The Duchesne Tunnel was shut off at the end of April with 4786 acre feet having been diverted to the Provo, and the Weber-Provo Diversion Canal delivered Weber River water from June 2nd to the 10th in the amount of only 770 acre feet.

Commissioner Roberts then thanked the Board, State Engineer, Deputy Commissioner and Provo River Water Users Association for the cooperation extended in the distribution of the Provo River in the 1977 water year.

BUDGET AND ASSESSMENT, 1977:

Chairman Ure advised that at the annual meeting of the Board the budget and assessment had been approved and adopted and asked Secretary Gardner to present the budget and assessment. The budget was presented and it was noted that the 1978 budget was set at \$27,400.00 and that the assessment remained at \$28,000.00 per year. Other changes in the budget were noted.

A copy of the 1978 budget is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

STATE ENGINEER ADVISED OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMISSIONER AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER:

Chairman Ure advised Mr. Norseth that at the annual meeting held on the 10th of January, that Stanley Roberts, Jr. had been chosen as the recommended Provo River Water Commissioner for the ensuing year.

Director Gardner then noted that at the meeting with the State Engineer a year ago, guidelines under which the Commissioner was to distribute the Provo River were adopted by the Board and, subsequently with some changes, approved by the State Engineer. These guidelines were not adhered to by the Commissioner in respect to the getting a Class "A" balance in Deer Creek Reservoir, in excess of 400 acre feet. Because of this, a meeting was held with the State Engineer on July 5, 1977, and the 1258 acre feet of water that the Commissioner claimed was Class "A" water was distributed to the Provo River Water Users Association and others leaving a 400 acre feet balance credited to "Class "A" to accomodate daily fluctuations. The Commissioner was ordered that there was to be no negative balance to Class "A" and the credit balance should not exceed 400 acre feet. A report was exhibited showing that these instructions had been ignored, as there had been in excess of 400 acre feet credited as as high as 830 acre feet, and a negative balance as high as 736 acre feet. It was also noted that while the negative balance was accumulating that no attempt was made to regulate the river by lowering the deliveries as the river stayed at 50% during this period. Director Gardner then requested that either the Commissioner adhere to the direction of the State Engineer and of this Board or that he be replaced.

Mr. Norseth advised that he would take under advisement the recommendations and present the same to the State Engineer.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business and upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 A.M.

Date Approved: _____

Jack M. Gardner, Secretary